

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

“Replacement Sheets” are attached which include a clean version of amended Figures 1, 2, 3 and 5. The attached sheets replace the original sheets including Figures 1, 2, 3 and 5.

“Annotated Sheets Showing Changes” are also attached which includes a marked-up version of Figures 1, 2, 3 and 5.

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 were previously pending in this application. By this amendment, Applicant is canceling claim 24. Claim 22 has been amended. As a result, claims 1-23 and 25 are pending for examination with claims 1, 8, 12, and 22 being independent claims. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants respectfully acknowledge the allowance of claims 1-21 and the indication that claim 24 would be allowable if placed in independent form including all of the limitations of its base claim. By this response, Applicants amend independent claim 22 to incorporate the allowable features of claim 24, which is hereby canceled. Accordingly, independent claim 22 and claims 23 and 25 depending there from are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Specification

In reviewing the specification, Applicants noted several minor inconsistencies within the specification which are hereby corrected. In the paragraph beginning at line 17 of page 7, the word "raise" is replaced with the word "diminish". Support for this change can be found at least in Figure 4C, where potential V_1 is inferior to potential V_0 corresponding to a diminution of the potential of the read region 7 from V_0 to V_1 . Moreover, it is recited on page 7, lines 21-22 that the charges (which are electrons, as mentioned on page 2, line 12) stored at the level of photodiode D flow to read region 7. This leads to a diminution of the potential of this region, as the specification is amended to reflect.

On page 8, line 4 the reference Q" has been amended to recite reference Q'. Support for this change can be found in at least Figures 4C and 4D, where the charges which are in the read region 7 are designated by the reference Q'.

Amendments to the Drawings

In reviewing the specification, Applicants noted minor discrepancies between the specification and drawings. In particular, in Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 5, reference character "T" has been replaced with reference character " T_X " as shown in the specification as filed. Reference

character "T_x" can be found, for example, on page 1, line 31, page 2, line 5, page 6, line 27 and page 8, line 27, as well as throughout the specification.

Additionally, reference numerals "7" and "12", inadvertently omitted from the drawings as originally filed, were added to Fig. 3. Support for the addition of reference numerals "7" and "12" to Fig. 3 can be found on page 6, line 21 and page 7, line 2.

Accordingly, Applicants enclose herein three annotated sheets of drawing and three replacement sheets of drawing incorporating the above changes.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner rejected claims 22, 23 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Cazaux et al., U.S. Publication No. 2004/0135070.

As discussed above, Applicants amend claim 22 to incorporate the allowable features of claim 24. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

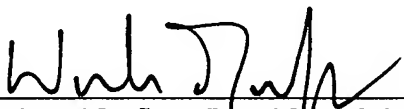
A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Dated: February 28, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By:


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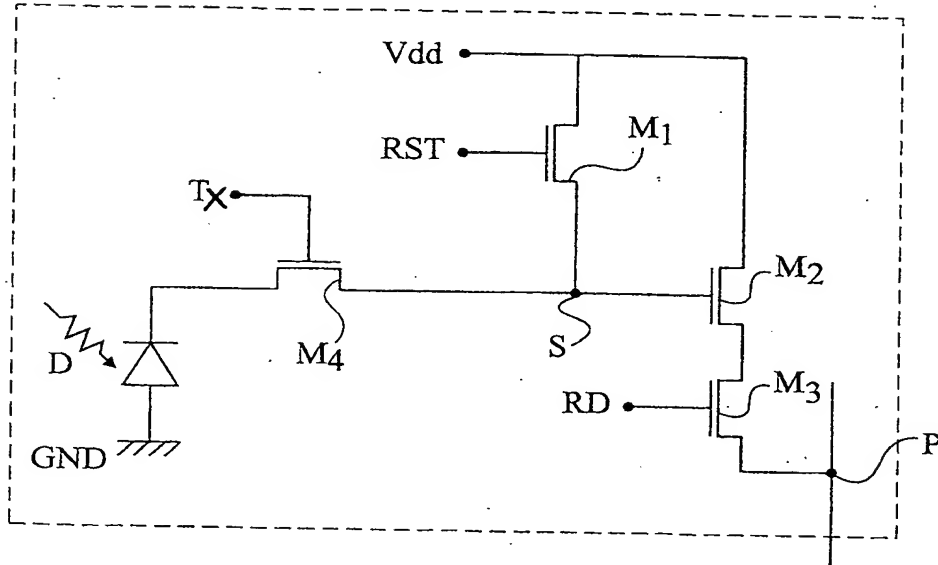


Fig 1

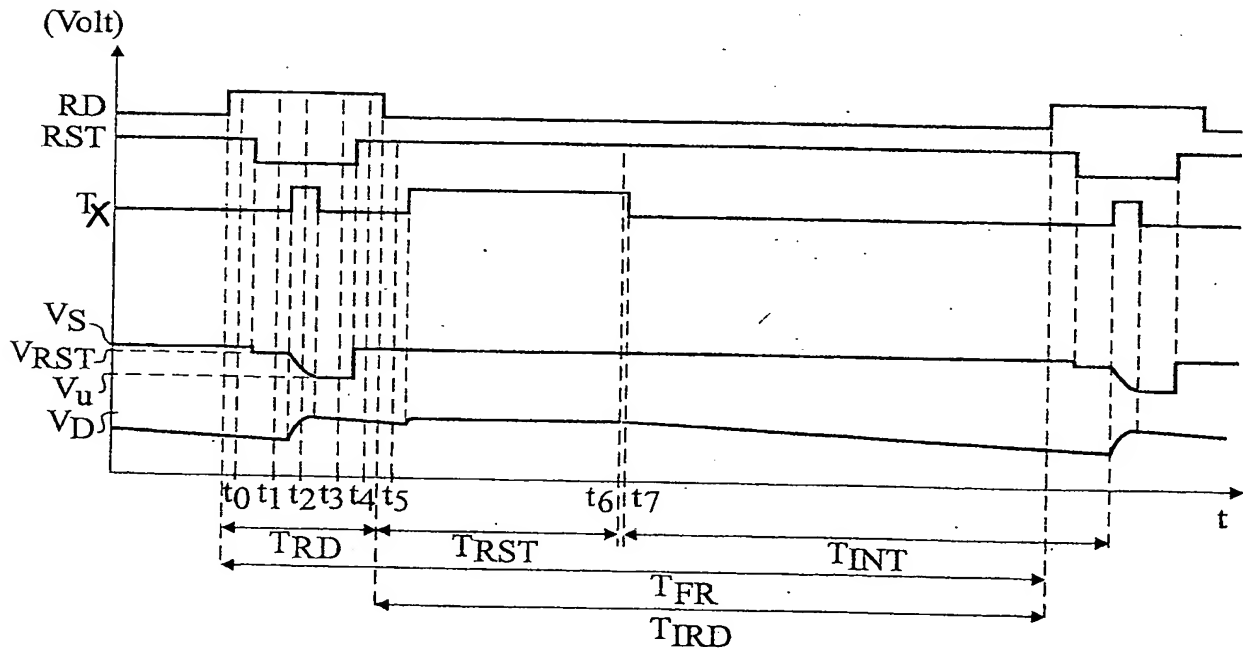


Fig 2

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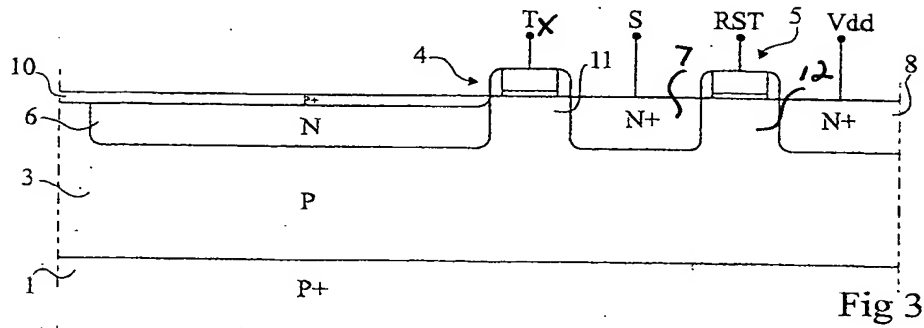


Fig 3

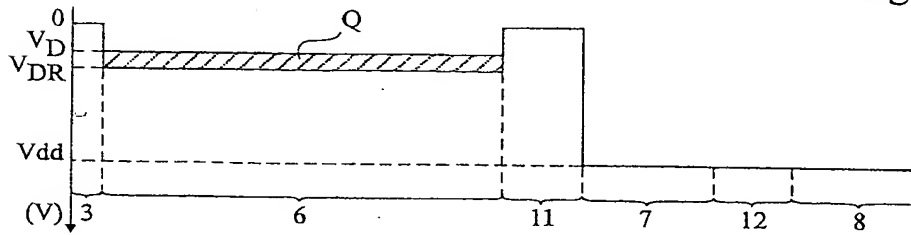


Fig 4A

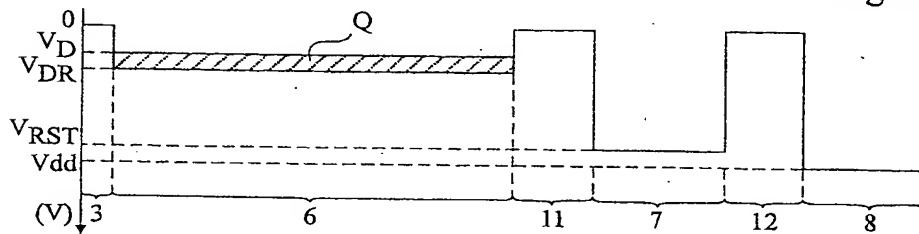


Fig 4B

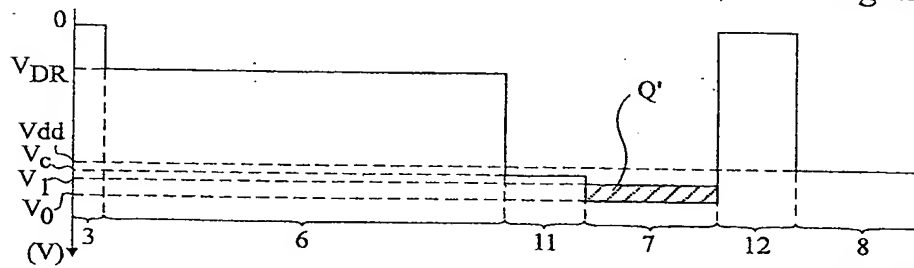


Fig 4C

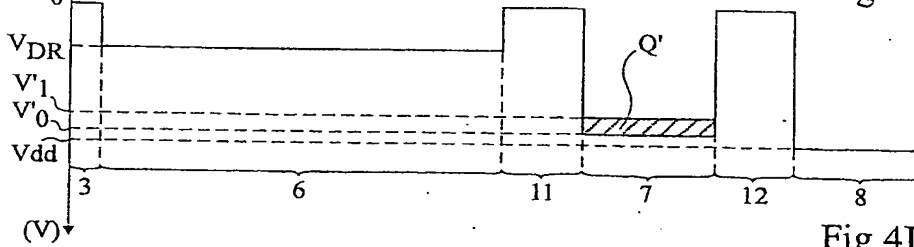


Fig 4D

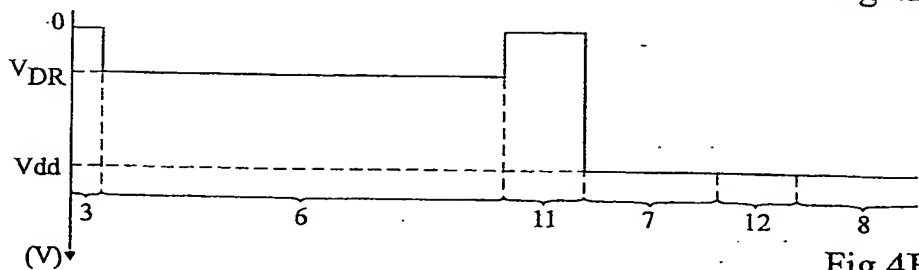


Fig 4E

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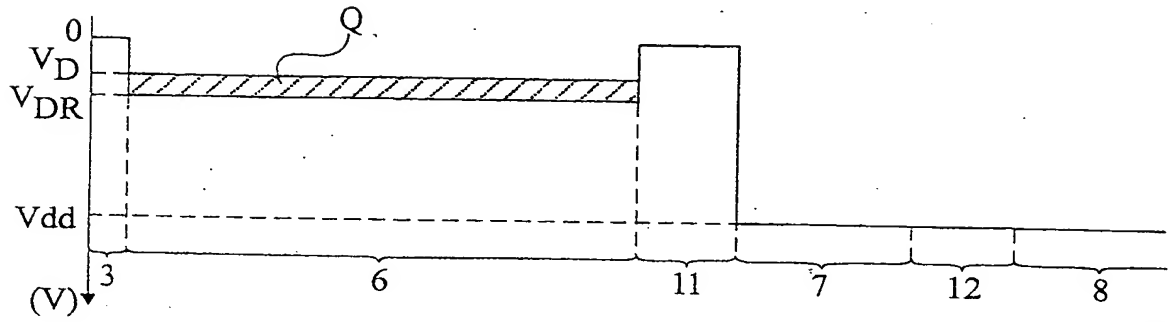


Fig 4F

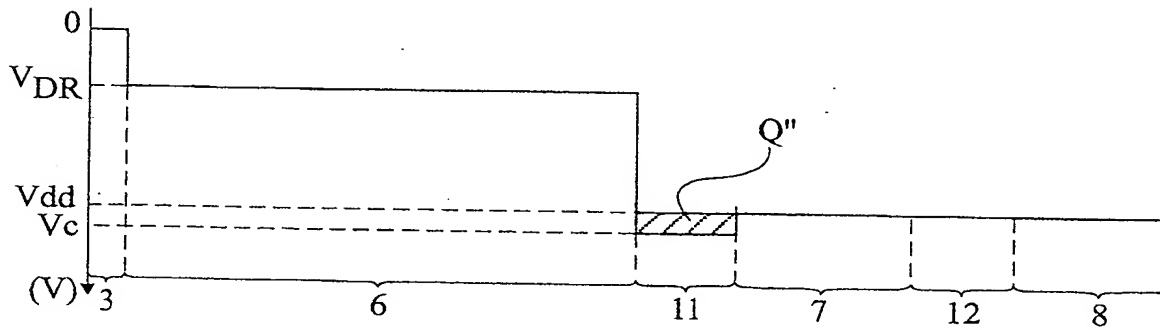


Fig 4G

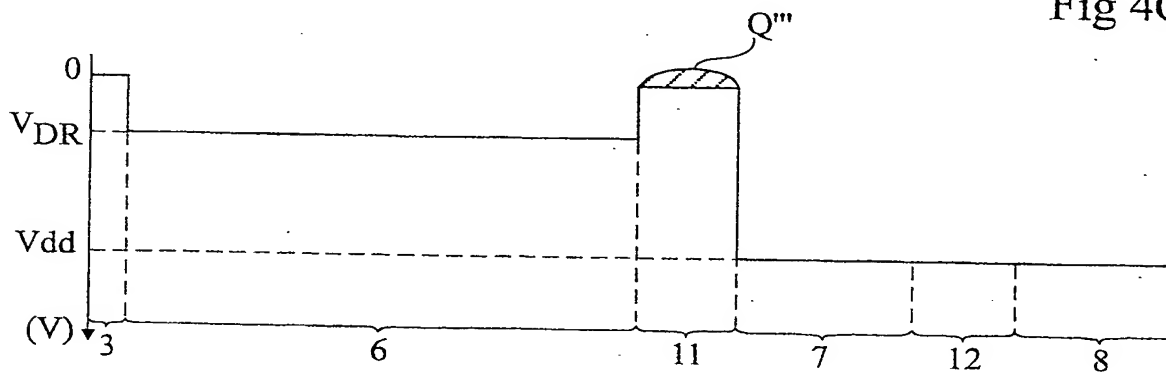


Fig 4H

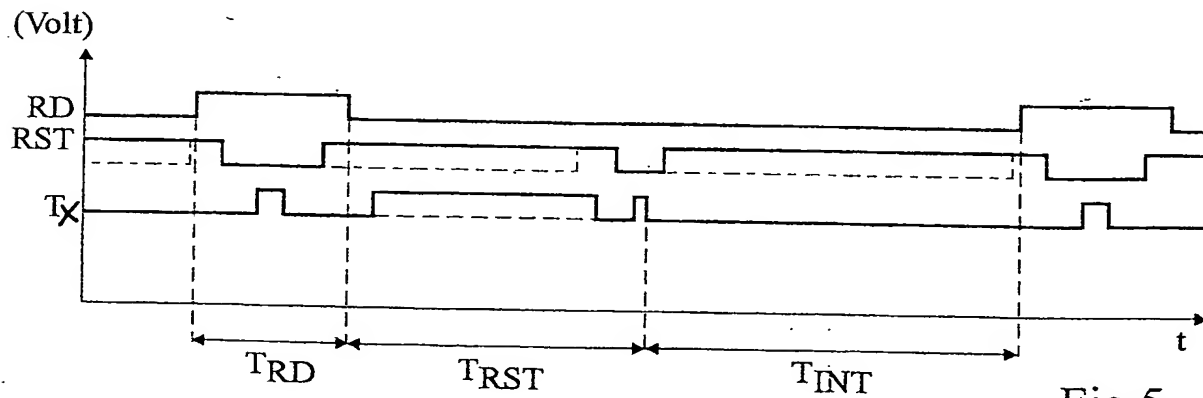


Fig 5